



Maintenance Work and Disposal of Asbestos-Containing Equipment, e.g. Brake Shoes

I. General

1. Information from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):
 - Asbestos is a natural mineral fiber that has been used commonly in a variety of building construction materials for insulation and as a fire-retardant.
 - Because of its fiber strength and heat resistant properties, asbestos has been used for a wide range of manufactured goods, e.g. friction products (automobile clutch, brake, and transmission parts).
 - When asbestos-containing materials are damaged or disturbed e.g. by repair, microscopic fibers become airborne and can be inhaled, causing significant health problems in your lungs.
2. The article 'Asbestos' U.S. legacy may be half-million deaths' can be viewed under:
<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2010/07/21/97624/asbestos-us-legacy-may-be-half.html>
 - About 125 million people in the world are exposed to asbestos at the workplace.
 - According to WHO estimates, more than 107 000 people die each year from asbestos-related lung cancer, mesothelioma and asbestosis resulting from occupational exposure.
 - One in every three deaths from occupational cancer is estimated to be caused by asbestos.

II. Maintenance Work

1. All clutches and brake shoes as well as some gaskets (e.g. engine compartments) must be presumed to contain asbestos!
2. All personnel servicing asbestos-containing material/equipment such as brake pads must be trained. For detailed information, contact the Garrison's Safety Office at **DSN: 354-1670**.
3. **DO NOT** use compressed air or dry brushing to clean brake assemblies!
4. **Never** remove friction material (brake pads) from brake assembly!
5. **Restrict access** during removal operations to limit exposure resulting from uncontrolled release of dust and waste water.
6. **Detailed information** can be found in the USAG Schweinfurt Environmental Regulation 200-1.
http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/dpw/environmental/environmental_management_system.htm
7. Use the **Wet method** for servicing asbestos-containing brakes. For detailed information, contact the Garrison's Safety Office at **DSN: 354-1670**.



Asbestos-Containing Equipment - Information Sheet

USAG Schweinfurt, DPW, Environmental Division (Bldg. #251), DSN 354-6795,
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III. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Always use appropriate PPE when doing maintenance work on asbestos-containing equipment:

- disposable overalls (non-disposable overalls should be washed separately from other clothes),
- Dust masks,
- Protection goggles,
- Protection gloves



Sources: http://www.denios.de/kategorie/c400100102510_EKASTU-Einweg-Feinstaubfiltermasken-Standard.html,
<http://www.directindustry.de/prod/msa/vollzicht-schutzbrille-15740-38460.html>, http://www.alltex.org/disposables_overalls.html,

IV. Disposal

1. Asbestos is non-degradable!
2. Treat all asbestos-contaminated material as **hazardous waste**.
3. Place any asbestos waste and debris in a tear-proof plastic bag (**best practice is double-bagged**) and place the bag into a container labeled "Caution - Asbestos Waste".
4. The container should be sealed and brought to the Conn Barracks Hazardous Waste Storage Area, building # 147.



Operation Hours:

- **Tuesdays 0900-1500 hrs,**
- **OR on appointment,**
- **Closed on American & German Holiday**

5. Clean the work area and floor with damp rags (never dry sweep the floor) and dispose of the rags in the bag with the other waste material and seal it.

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